UNITED
NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/IC/1991/3
16 January 1991

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of the staff

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management

Subject: HOST COUNTRY TRAVEL REGULATIONS*

1. The Secretary-General has received from the United States Mission to the United Nations a note verbale dated 14 January 1991 advising him of changes in procedural requirements for travel in the United States for staff members and their dependants who are nationals of Iraq (see annex I).

2. The reply of the Secretary-General is contained in his note of 16 January 1991, a copy of which is also attached (see annex II). The note reiterates the well-known position of principle of the United Nations regarding restrictive and discriminatory treatment by the host country of staff members of the United Nations Secretariat solely on the basis of their nationality.

3. Existing arrangements for official travel as outlined in information circular ST/IC/86/4 dated 14 January 1986 remain unchanged and will be made in the usual manner.

4. The staff will be kept informed of further developments in this matter.

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* Personnel Manual index No. 13019/C.

Annex I

NOTE VERBALE DATED 14 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and wishes to inform the Secretary-General of changes in procedural requirements for travel in the United States regarding Iraqi personnel and their dependants which supersede the regulation contained in the United States Mission's note of 21 September 1990 (ST/IC/1990/67, annex I).

Effective immediately, all employees of the United Nations organizations assigned to New York City (including persons temporarily assigned) who are nationals of the Republic of Iraq, including members of their families and personal staffs who are nationals of Iraq, will be restricted to travel within the five boroughs of New York City.

When the persons subject to these restrictions believe they have a justifiable basis to travel beyond these designated limits for non-official travel, specifically recreational travel, a travel authorization form must be submitted to the United States Mission to the United Nations a full two working days prior to the date of proposed departure.

In each instance, the United States Mission to the United Nations will notify the traveller that the request has either been approved or denied. If approved, the applicant must obtain a stamped or endorsed copy of the travel request from the United States Mission to the United Nations before the intended departure.

Annex II

NOTE VERBALE DATED 16 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the United States Mission to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the latter's note verbale of 14 January 1991 concerning the proposed regulations for travel in the United States undertaken by staff members of the Secretariat and their dependants, including personal staff, who are nationals of Iraq.

The Secretary-General notes that the above-mentioned individuals are restricted by the host country to travel within the five boroughs of New York City. As far as staff members and their dependants are concerned, the Secretary-General is obliged to reiterate the well-known position of principle of the United Nations regarding restrictive and discriminatory treatment by the host country of staff members of the United Nations Secretariat solely on the basis of their nationality. This position remains unchanged.

It is expected that in the implementation of the new regulations due account will be taken by the appropriate United States authorities of the fact that the staff members concerned not only must be duly notified by the United Nations of the procedure that is applicable to them but that, as in previous cases of a similar nature, the appropriate arrangements will have to be made for staff members who reside beyond the prescribed limit.

The Secretary-General understands that the measures outlined in the note of 14 January 1991 do not affect the existing arrangements for official travel in the United States which have been in effect since 15 January 1986.